

# GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

VOL. 80, No. 24

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

MAY 4, 2017



PHOTO BY MELANIE GRIFFIN

Shobha and Bill Duncan of Greenbelt join the crowds at the Climate March in Washington, D.C. on Saturday April 29.

## Paper Holds Firm on Ad Rates: Color Free, Nonprofits Boosted

by Cathie Meetre

In a bold move, this newspaper has implemented substantial changes to its advertising policies and practices. This redesign of ad policy utilizes savings from recently decreased printing costs and co-opts additional funds from the operating budget of the paper to revamp and rationalize rates. This will provide a new and sustainable advertising baseline – with no rate increase to any advertiser. The primary results are: no fee for color, no change in standard and tier advertising rates, no change to the non-profit rate, extension of non-profit rates to fund-raising events and a reduction in the cost of inserts.

It's not often that there's an opportunity for everybody to win. But a chance came up for this newspaper recently and it will benefit readers, advertisers and the paper itself. With a more economical rate for printing the paper, there came the opportunity to re-examine advertising rate structure and policy. An advertising committee of Diane Oberg, Sylvia Lewis and JoEllen Sarff, ably assisted by the paper's accountant, Mary Halford, was charged with using this leeway where it would do the most good for the entire News Review com-

munity – readers, advertisers and the paper itself. Unlike a commercial newspaper, which would have gleefully pocketed the increased profits, the News Review resolved to share these savings (and more).

The committee's charter was to a) make it so nobody paid more for the ad they get now, b) create a rate structure that was objective and easy to apply consistently and c) accomplish this in a sustainable and fiscally responsible manner. This tall order involved extensive analysis of costs, projections of income and no small measure of angst.

### Color Rates

The paper will no longer charge a fee for color. The paper began experimenting with colors other than the time-honored Historic Greenbelt Green about 18 months ago and introduced a surcharge for those advertisers electing full color – which was generally limited to four pages of the paper, only three of which were available to advertisers.

At that time, the paper didn't really expect to cover the additional cost with color fees but was cautiously hopeful that some

See **PAPER**, page 9

## Greenbelt Station Transportation Woes, Budget and Beer at Council

by Diane Oberg

At its April 24 meeting, the City Council discussed the sudden discontinuation of the Greenbelt Station shuttle to the Metro station, adopted two changes to the city's building code, held the first public hearing on the budget and introduced an ordinance that would allow the Greenbelt Farmers Market to add beer and hard cider to its tastings.

### Greenbelt Station

Joseph Trullinger of Greenbelt Station came forward to report on residents' concerns over the sudden replacement of the free shuttle to the Greenbelt Metro station with a new route for the county The Bus service, costing \$1.25 each way. Residents were not informed of the change until late in the final day of service. He said that bus stop signs have not yet been installed.

These changes, he said, leave residents paying more for less access to Metro. He noted that the

developers, Woodlawn Development Group, had for months been in negotiations with the county about providing service, while giving no notice of this potential change to Greenbelters.

Trullinger asked the city to do whatever it can to get Woodlawn to reinstate the shuttle.

In addition to the cost concerns, Trullinger said The Bus is less convenient for residents. It does not run a loop around the community as the shuttle did and, although it is now running every 15 minutes, residents have been told that after the Safe Track disruptions are over it will run only every 40 minutes. In addition, The Bus has more limited hours than the shuttle did.

Later in the meeting, City Manager Nicole Ard reported that Woodlawn is contributing \$8,000 for July to December of this year, and \$17,000 over the next two years toward the cost of running

The Bus route. However, the county requires that at least 10 people must take The Bus each day in order for it to continue.

Ard noted that staff has asked Woodlawn to reconsider their decision but had not yet gotten a response.

She also reported that the path to the Metro station should be ready by the end of this summer. However, City Planner Jessica Bellah reported that Woodlawn is finding that the soil in that area is not adequate to support the asphalt trail and is working to resolve that issue. She said she will convey to Woodlawn that the Cherrywood Lane section of the trail should be the priority over the Branchville Road section.

### Franklin Park

Ray Gordon urged council to do whatever it could to stop stores in Greenbelt from selling

See **COUNCIL**, page 10

## New Cell Phone Tower Dominates Heated Discussion by City Council

by Diane Oberg

Judging by crowd size, the topic of greatest interest to residents at the April 24 City Council meeting was clearly the proposed construction of a T-Mobile cell phone antenna tower on the grounds of Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS). Council unanimously approved motions to send a letter expressing their concerns to Milestone Communications, which would install the antenna, and to send additional letters to County Executive Rushern Baker and Chief Executive Officer Kevin Maxwell of Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS). Council was to collaborate with staff to refine the draft letter to Milestone and the letters to Baker and Maxwell.

The ERHS tower would be one of many authorized under an agreement between PGCPS and Milestone. The school board has approved the contract but is not involved in the selection or review of tower sites.

The tower would have three vertical supports upon which several large signs would be placed. As an example, Milestone showed a photo of a tower installed at Corkran Middle School in Anne Arundel County, which has panels showing the school mascot, the name of the school and three panels each containing one letter of CMS.

Under the agreement between the PGCPS and Milestone, the school system would receive 40 percent of the revenue generated by the tower. These funds will go

into the PGCPS's general budget, not to ERHS.

The tower is proposed to be installed close to Greenbelt Road between the parking lot and Greenwood Village. It would be 105 feet high and placed upon a site that is higher than the school building and is one of the highest points in Greenbelt. This would increase its visibility in other areas of Greenbelt. Milestone has posted more information about the proposal at roosevelthwireless.com.

Council and residents present had several concerns about the proposal. First was about the community meeting to be held the following evening in Seabrook. Council questioned whether this location and the means used by the company to announce the

meeting were adequate. A number of nearby property owners, including the three Greenbelt East residents on council (Mayor Emmett Jordan and Councilmembers Judith Davis and Edward Putens) said that they did not receive notification.

Another major issue is the location and height of the tower. The mock-ups presented by the company show the tower looming high over nearby houses. The tower will be closer to some homes in Greenwood Village than to the school building itself.

Also frustrating to council and residents are the limited options for fighting placement of the tower on ERHS land. City Attorney Karen Ruff noted that

See **CELL TOWER**, page 11

### What Goes On

#### Sunday, May 7

9 to 11 a.m., Women's Bicycle Social Ride, New Deal Café (See city ad for details.)

1 to 3 p.m., Community Art Drop-In, Community Center

#### Monday, May 8

5:30 p.m., Youth Advisory Committee, Community Center

7:30 to 8:30 p.m., Grief Counseling Support Group, Municipal Building

7:30 p.m., ACE Student Awards Reception, Municipal Building

8 p.m., City Council Meeting and ACE Student Awards, Municipal Building, Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 998, and streaming at greenbeltdmd.gov/municipaltv

#### Wednesday, May 10

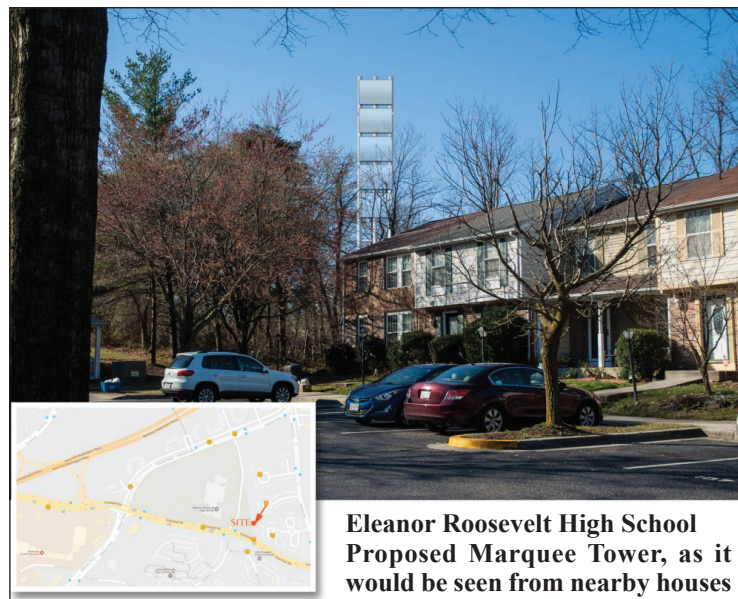
7 p.m., Budget Worksession with Recognition Groups, Community Center

7:30 p.m., Advisory Planning Board, Community Center

7:30 p.m., Zero Waste Circle, Public Works

#### Thursday, May 11

6:30 p.m., Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Municipal Building



Eleanor Roosevelt High School Proposed Marquee Tower, as it would be seen from nearby houses

PHOTO SIMULATION COURTESY OF MILESTONE COMMUNICATIONS



Editorial

FOP Vote Should Be Quashed

We are concerned about the method by which the Greenbelt Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) recently took a vote of no confidence in Acting Chief Tom Kemp. We further believe that such a vote was an inappropriate vehicle in which to inform council of departmental issues.

The vote was taken without advance notice to FOP members. The motion was passed by a minority of the FOP membership (FOP members are 39 out of about 53 sworn Greenbelt officers) and did not contain specific grievances or concerns.

We believe such action should have been taken only after due notice and deliberation, not in the heat of the moment. To be meaningful and fair, the matter should have been deferred until a meeting where the membership could have advance notice.

We find the no confidence vote ill-advised, divisive and unnecessarily personal. The surprise action, taken by a minority and without specifics, carries less weight to council and to the public than would a considered and justified declaration of a majority of the police force to which Acting Chief Kemp had a chance to respond. This newspaper believes the no confidence statement should be publicly withdrawn and the motion redrawn and, if desired, reissued to include specifics. It should also be discussed in a forum where it can be considered by all FOP members and Kemp given an opportunity to respond.

Letters to the Editor

No to the Cell Tower At Eleanor Roosevelt

On Tuesday, April 25 I attended a community meeting at the Seabrook Seventh-day Adventist Church in Seabrook to discuss the proposed cell tower to be erected on the grounds of Eleanor Roosevelt High School by Milestone and T-Mobile. Both Milestone and T-Mobile had representatives present at this meeting.

I do not believe the meeting was held in “good faith” to hear the concerns and frustrations of Greenbelt residents on the proposed cell phone tower.

The meeting was deliberately not held in Greenbelt as to significantly impact attendance. (I learned after the meeting that Derek Green, communications liaison for Milestone, is a member of the Seabrook Seventh-day Adventist Church.)

The meeting was held on the same day the Prince George’s County Board of Education had their board meeting, therefore there was no representation from the board.

Sufficient notice was not provided to Greenbelt residents. Milestone and T-Mobile had apparently satisfied the requirement in sending out 3,000 notices to residents, however, neither company could answer questions on how the notices were mailed and to whom. Many attendees from the Greenwood community whose homes border the site where the tower is to be erected did not receive notice. I sat close to an older gentleman whose backyard borders the site and he had not received a notice.

Eleanor Roosevelt High

School faculty, parents and students have not been made aware of the proposed cell tower on school grounds. There was a school administrator present and she said that information on the proposed cell tower has not been provided to the faculty, parents and students.

Mayor Emmett Jordan and Councilmember Judith Davis, who were in attendance at the meeting, said that they had requested in writing a meeting with Milestone and T-Mobile, but neither company had responded to their request. Apparently, the written request was not even read, because Derek Green referred to Davis several times as mayor, before being corrected by Davis. Jordan questioned the entire process and the steps taken by Milestone and T-Mobile to notify Greenbelt residents for a proposed cell tower that is scheduled to be erected this June. Milestone has already surveyed the land and a Greenwood resident said that Pepco has already begun digging ground to supply power to the cell phone tower.

I was frustrated to learn that the school and county politicians made a deal in 2011 to erect 72 cell phone towers, all on school grounds.

Parents in Bethesda, concerned about the health consequences and dangers of being near a cell tower, were successful in stopping a similar tower from being erected on the grounds of Wootton High School due to outraged opposition and activism of concerned parents and residents.

I learned at the meeting that

See LETTERS, page 7

On Screen

Hero or Fanatic?

Director James Gray’s The Lost City of Z, coming to the Old Greenbelt theater this Friday May 5, is a complex tale of British anthropologist and soldier Percy Fawcett’s (Charlie Hunnan) obsessive search in 1906 for an Amazonian El Dorado ruled by indigenous Bolivians culturally superior to their white colonizers (!). Aided by sidekick Henry Costin (Robert Pattinson), resented by wife Nina (Sienna Miller), scoffed at by the British Establishment, Fawcett plunges deeper into his own heart of darkness.

Is he a fanatic or hero? Who is savage and who is civilized? Think of Lawrence of Arabia and Apocalypse Now. One critic called the lighting and spectacle a “ravishment of the senses.”

Running time 2 hours, 21 minutes  
Rating PG-13

- Jim Link

City Notes

Street Maintenance/Special Details crew removed defective concrete at the outdoor pool, set anchors for lifeguard chairs and repaired a walking surface by repainting the decorative area next to the kids pool.

Refuse/Recycling/Sustainability crews collected 30.21 tons of refuse and 13.79 tons of recyclable material.

Horticulture/Parks crew delivered mulch and compost to Schrom Hills Park for the Three Sisters’ Gardens.

Fleet Maintenance crew performed preventive maintenance on two police vehicles to ready them for new police officers.

A new exhibition was mounted in the Community Center Art Gallery. Vision Quest: Paintings and Collage by Janet Mathias will be on view through June 10. Preparations are underway for a display of student artwork in the Community Center halls.

Watercolor artist and Greenbelt resident Lynn Perlik is the newest participant in the artist-in-residence program based at the Community Center. With her arrival, the studios will be full, with eight artists occupying three subdivided classrooms on the third floor.

CARES staff conducted an Active Parenting session on April 20. Parents viewed a video presentation on adolescence followed by a review of advanced discipline methods. In addition, there was an open discussion on Teen Brain Development and Purpose and Styles of Parenting.



Old Greenbelt Theatre  
129 Centerway  
301-329-2034  
www.greenbelttheatre.org

Members always \$6.50!

Adults \$9, Senior/Student \$8, Members \$6.50, Kids \$6

All shows before 5 PM:  
Adults \$7, Members \$6.50, Kids \$5

OC = Open Captions  
CC = Closed Captions

SHOWTIMES  
May 5th - May 11th

THE LOST CITY OF Z  
(PG-13) (CC) (141 mins)  
Fri. 2:30, 5:15, 8:00 PM  
Sat. 2:30, 5:15, 8:00 PM  
(Guest speaker after the 8 pm show)  
Sun. 12:00 PM (OC), 7:00 PM  
Mon. 5:15 PM, 8:00 PM  
Tues. 5:15, 8:00 PM  
Wed. 2:30, 5:15, 8:00 PM  
Thurs. 5:15 PM

Storytime on Screen - FREE!  
Mon. 10:30 AM



www.greenbeltnewsreview.com



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# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Greenbelt East: Contact Condominium Homeowner's Association  
Circulation and Distribution information also available at:  
www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution/

Published weekly since 1937 by the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc

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Business Manager: Mary Halford

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and Classified Ads—8 p.m. Tuesday. Display Ads 4 p.m. Monday, 8 p.m. Tuesday if camera ready. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$45/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 10 p.m.



# Community Events

## Music and Politics Forum on Saturday

The second monthly meeting of the Greenbelt-based Music and Politics Forum will be held on Saturday, May 6 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the small meeting room on the lower floor of the Greenbelt Library. This and all meetings are open to the public. The goal of these discussions is to forge connections and encourage intellectual and creative exchanges. The group aims to foster a deeper critical understanding of music and attentively listen for politics in music. In these discussions, we consider the sometimes ethically fraught, sometimes politically inspiring or liberating processes of music production and consumption.

On May 6, the forum will discuss Da Lama ao Caos, Chico Science and Nação Zumbi's 1994 debut album. Ethnomusicologist Donnie Scally will provide a brief background on the album, the artists and the associated ideological movement born in Recife, Brazil. Lyrics with English translations will be provided, although attendees are encouraged to listen to the album in advance. Following the opening remarks, the group will listen to select portions and discuss the political views expressed by the album's creators and how this album might provide new insights and approaches to the political climate.

Because of space limitations, participation will be limited to 30 people. Use of library meeting space does not constitute endorsement by the Prince George's County Memorial Library System.

As this group is intended to foster ongoing connections and collaboration, attendees will collectively choose albums for future discussions.



## Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215.

All meals include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for the week of May 8 are as follows:

Monday, May 8: baked chicken with cacciatore sauce, whole grain penne pasta, spinach, wheat bread, sliced pears, cranberry juice

Tuesday, May 9: beef cabbage casserole, mixed vegetables, peach crisp, wheat roll, cranberry juice

Wednesday, May 10: turkey à la king, brown rice, sliced carrots, biscuit, pineapple tidbits, orange juice

Thursday, May 11: meatloaf with tomato gravy, whipped potatoes, cabbage with carrots, wheat bread, cherry fruit treat, cranberry juice

Friday, May 12: crispy baked chicken, scalloped potatoes, broccoli, wheat roll, ambrosia salad, strawberry shortcake, cranberry juice

## Exploring Living Well

Explorations Unlimited welcomes Linda Nunes-Schrag at 1 p.m. on Friday, May 5 and Friday, May 12. On May 5, Nunes-Schrag will introduce participants to the Living Well: Take Charge of Your Health series of programs offered by the Prince George's County Department of Family Services.

On May 12, she will facilitate the Healthy Living with Hypertension workshop, assisted by Jackie Harley. This is an interactive three-hour workshop that informs and provides skills in a supportive, non-threatening environment. Participants will be motivated to adjust their lifestyle to manage their blood pressure. This free workshop will enable individuals to prevent further illnesses and lead a healthier life.

Nunes-Schrag is a master trainer of Living Well, an evidence-based program designed by Stanford University Patient Education Center that focuses on self-management of chronic disease and diabetes. She has also trained in Living a Healthy Life with Hypertension and in Stepping On, a falls prevention program. She has been involved with the Stanford program for over 10 years, training and mentoring potential leaders. This has become her passion as she has learned that Prince George's County has the highest rate of diabetes, borderline and pre-diabetes in Maryland. Knowing the consequences and complications of this disease has empowered her to reach out to those less informed as to how they can self-manage and be on top of their situation.

Explorations Unlimited is held on Fridays at 1 p.m. at the Community Center. Both presentations will be held in Room 114. Preregistration is required for the May 12 session as space is limited. Everyone is welcome to attend and questions are always encouraged. Call 301-397-2208 for more information and to register.

## Events at MakerSpace

Thursday, May 4: Coding Club from 7 to 8 p.m.

Friday, May 5: First Friday Games from 6 to 9 p.m.

Saturday, May 6: Video Production Meetup from 2 to 4 p.m.

Sunday, May 7: Animation Meetup from 2 to 4 p.m.

Tuesday, May 9: Chess Club (for all ages) from 7 to 9 p.m.

Wednesday, May 10: Fiber Fans from 6 to 9 p.m.

## Bike to Work Day Registration Opens

Registration for Bike to Work Day (BTWD) 2017 is officially open. Celebrating its 16th anniversary this year, BTWD is again expected to break participation records as commuters embrace bicycling as a clean, sustainable and healthy transportation option. The event will be held on Friday, May 19. Registration is free and open to anyone who commutes in the region, from first-time to daily cyclists. All registrants will be entered in a regional bicycle raffle; the first 16,000 to register and attend will receive a free T-shirt at one of more than 85 pit-stops throughout the District, suburban Maryland and northern Virginia. Participants can register online at [biketoworkmetrodc.org](http://biketoworkmetrodc.org).

More than 17,500 cyclists pedaled to work in metropolitan Washington during last year's event. "Bike to Work Day is a great opportunity for commuters to discover the benefits of bicycling to work," said Nicholas Ramfos, Commuter Connections director. "This event started with the goal of promoting bicycling as a viable commute alternative, and has grown into one of the largest BTWD events in the country."

Visit [commuterconnections.org/commuters/bicycling/](http://commuterconnections.org/commuters/bicycling/) for information on bicycles, rules of the road and bicycling in traffic, outfitting both rider and bicycle, transit and bikeshare. Follow this year's event on Twitter via Commuter Connections at @BikeToWorkDay and by using #BTWD2017 or #BTWDC.

## Green Man Needs Zero Waste Volunteers

Volunteers are needed at the Green Man Festival during the weekend of May 13 and 14 to let festival-goers know about recycling and composting opportunities and the goal of zero waste.

Volunteers should sign up for time slots between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. each day at [signupgenius.com/go/409084fa4ad2ba3f58-green](http://signupgenius.com/go/409084fa4ad2ba3f58-green), and plan to attend a training session prior to the event, on either Tuesday, May 9 or Thursday, May 11 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Department of Public Works.

During the festival, volunteers should check in at 125 Centerway. Remember to bring a reusable water bottle.

For questions, contact Connor Roessler at [croessler@greenbeltmd.com](mailto:croessler@greenbeltmd.com) or 240-542-2150.

## Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

The Golden Age Club had a great celebration for the 60th anniversary lunch. There was very good food, lots of music, short speeches and funny pictures.

Past Presidents Cathie Brennan and Brenda Cooley were presented with awards from the Greenbelt City Council. A good time was had by all and now the club is off to another year. Many thanks to all who helped make this such a success.

The speaker on May 10 will be our own second vice president Randi Anderson. She will present her new book, The Way Home. Come and meet the author and the cover artist, Susan Craine. Randi has written several books and will give interesting information on publishing a book.

Christine Skeelar is recovering from complications of surgery. Keep her in your prayers and send her happy thoughts.

Remember: Sharing is Caring!

## Computer Club Meets

The Greenbelt Computer Club will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, May 11 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Community Center, Room 112. Everyone is welcome to discuss the latest in consumer electronics, computers and tablets and basic troubleshooting of Windows computers. Some troubleshooting for Apple iPad and iPhone also is available.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

## Tree Planting Event Saturday, May 6

The Greenbelt Forest Stewardship Project hosts a tree planting event on Saturday, May 6 along Breezewood Drive. Plant trees, restore soil and learn about the importance of street trees. The Department of Public Works will provide all training and materials.

Check in at 6220 Breezewood Drive. Volunteers are welcome between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Wear weather-appropriate clothing; it will most likely get dirty.

For questions or to RSVP, contact Connor Roessler at [croessler@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:croessler@greenbeltmd.gov) or 240-542-2150.



## Registration Open For Kindergarten

Kindergarten registration is open for Prince George's County Public Schools. Greenbelt Elementary School would prefer if all kindergarteners are registered before the end of this school year so they know how many teachers will be needed for next year.

Those registering will need a deed, lease or MOC to show Greenbelt residency, the child's birth certificate, ID, immunization records and two pieces of mail (less than 30 days old) with current address. The school registrar is usually available Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

For more information, visit [pgcps.org/greenbeltes/PB-greenbeltes.aspx?pageid=234930&id=222980](http://pgcps.org/greenbeltes/PB-greenbeltes.aspx?pageid=234930&id=222980).


Utopia Film Festival Presents  
Sunday, May 7th, Wed., May 10, & Fri., May 12  
Beginning at 8 PM

“Families are Forever (2014),” “Mother Jones,”  
“Music of the Brain (2010),” “The Singing City  
(2013),” and “The Wheelchair Diaries (2013)”

On Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATe)  
Comcast 77 & Verizon Fios 19 Channels

Greenbelt Arts Center  
DON'T MISS AT GAC!

TRIBUTE



May 5, 6, 12 at 8:00pm  
Matinees May 7, 13 at 2:00pm

“Tribute is an emotionally moving production well worth seeing” –  
DCMetroTheaterArts.com

General Admission: Adults \$22, Senior/Student/Military \$20,  
Youth \$12

COMING SOON

Off the Cuff: A 48-Hour Play Project - May 27 - Production from Off the Quill  
She Speaks - June 1 - 17 - Production from the Rude Mechanicals

For information & reservations, call 301-441-8770 or  
email: [info@greenbeltartscenter.org](mailto:info@greenbeltartscenter.org) or  
BOOK TICKETS ONLINE at [www.greenbeltartscenter.org](http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org)



# Obituaries

## Joseph Anthony Leverone

After a lifetime of living with complications resulting from an inherited blood clotting disorder (hemophilia A), Joseph Anthony Leverone died on Monday, April 24, 2017.

Joe was born in Washington, D.C., on October 19, 1960, and raised in Lanham and North Beach. He graduated from Southern High School, and attended Anne Arundel Community College and Technical Education Center. He worked as a microfilm processor and computer programmer for 27 years before a forced retirement on disability. He lived his adult life mostly in Gaithersburg and Damascus, but resided with his sister and her family in Greenbelt during the past few years.

Joe was a kind and gentle soul with a passion for science fiction books, movies and television shows. He also loved jazz, classical and alternative rock music.



Joseph Anthony Leverone

PHOTO BY TERRY HENDERSON

He adored his nieces and nephews and will be greatly missed by us all.

He is survived by his family: father LeRoy A. Leverone, sister Theresa R. Henderson (Steve), brother Michael F. (Susan), nieces Julia Leverone and Madeline Henderson, nephews Steven Henderson and Patrick Leverone. He was preceded in death by his mother Carolyn and his brothers, Mark and Brian.

A memorial mass will be held on Friday, May 5 at 9:30 a.m. at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 8816 Chesapeake Ave., North Beach, followed by interment at Fort Lincoln Cemetery and repast at 1 p.m. at the home of his father located at 643 Alabama Ave., North Beach. Donations in Joe's name can be made to the Hemophilia Association of the Capital Area, 8136 Old Keene Mill Road, Suite A312 Springfield, VA 22152 or hacacares.org.

## At the Library

**Weekly Storytimes**  
Monday, May 8, ages 3 to 5, 7 p.m., limit 20 people. Tuesday, May 9, ages 3 to 5, 7 p.m., limit 20 people. Wednesday, May 10, ages 3 to 5, 10:15 a.m., limit 20 people; ages 2 to 3, 11:15 a.m., limit 20 people. Thursday, May 11, ages newborn to 2, 10:15 and 11:15 a.m., limit 15 babies with parent(s)/caregiver(s); ages 2 to 3, 4:15 p.m., limit 20 people.

**Crazy 8s! Season 4**  
Tuesday, May 9, 4:30 p.m., for grades 3 to 5, limit 15 children. This after-school math club is designed to get kids fired up about math. Every week Crazy 8ers engage in activities where they may race across the country, make music with their hands and feet, or train to be a firefighter...all while bonding with new friends over math.

**Reading Makes Cents**  
Tuesday, May 9, 5:30 p.m., ages 5 to 12, limit 20 people. Learn about basic money management concepts and practice money skills through a multi-week series on the history of money, saving money and borrowing and lending money.



## Local Citizens Annual CROP Hunger Walk

On Sunday, May 7, many Greenbelters will walk in a local CROP Hunger Walk. CROP walks support the hunger-fighting development work of the ecumenical Church World Service, which has been helping the poor since World War II. The walk begins at 5211 Paint Branch Parkway in College Park, at the Linson Pool parking lot. Registration is between 1 and 2 p.m. Walkers come from area churches, as well as the Roosevelt Democratic Club. Walkers must have a sponsor or sponsor themselves. The routes both short and long, are around Lake Artemesia.

Funds raised support a range of programs from direct food relief to wells and water systems, to micro enterprise and loans worldwide. Twenty-five percent of funds will stay local, going to Help by Phone of Prince George's County. CROP Walk chairperson is Marty Folk. For more information, call 301-552-9329.



Condolences to the family and friends of Joseph Anthony Leverone, who died on April 24, 2017.

Congratulations to Elaina Perry for winning a \$2000 Team D.C. scholarship, given to local LGBT student athletes who have "made contributions to (their) sport (soccer)" and "enhanced the perception of the LGBT community." Elaina, a Greenbelt native and American University freshman, is pursuing a double major in public health and international relations.

At this time of year, we know many awards and accolades are presented. Please share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.



## Dynamic Governance At Green Man Festival

The Center for Dynamic Community Governance will have a table at the Green Man Festival in Roosevelt Center on Saturday, May 13 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sunday, May 14 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Stop by to learn more about dynamic community governance or volunteer opportunities. There will be educational, engaging and interactive activities for all ages, raffles, stickers and more.



## Zero Waste Circle Meets May 10

The Green Team's Zero Waste Circle will meet on Wednesday, May 10 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Department of Public Works.

Among the topics on the agenda are reports on the TerraCycle Drop-off Center, the prototype zero waste station at the Old Greenbelt Theatre, the New Deal Café compost pilot and the upcoming Green Man Festival.

## Tea Party for a Cause

A tea party to benefit the House of Ruth will be held at the 6100 Westchester Park Drive Party Room on Sunday, May 7 at 1 p.m.

There will be sandwiches, desserts, a silent auction, door prizes and a guest speaker from the House of Ruth. Help bring an end to domestic violence.

All are welcome, but seating is limited. For further information or to reserve seats, call Kathy Miller at 240-447-8284 or Sherri Tibbs at 240-375-5550. There is a fee.

## Greenbriar to Host Community Yard Sale

Greenbriar Condominiums will hold a community yard sale on Saturday, May 13 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (rain or shine) at 7600 Hanover Parkway. As many as 25 vendors will be there, along with a concession stand and other light refreshments for sale.



**Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS**

Sundays 10 A.M.  
Municipal Building


ALL ARE WELCOME.

**Holy Cross Thrift Store**

Every Thursday  
10am – 4pm

Good, clean clothes for women, men and children!  
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111



“Beware lest ye harm any soul, or make any heart to sorrow; lest ye wound any man with your words... be he friend or foe.” - Baha'i Writings

**Greenbelt Baha'i Community**

1-800-22-UNITE      301-345-2918  
Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com      www.greenbeltbahais.org

**ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-474-4322

**Mass Schedule:**  
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.  
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.  
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.

**Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe**

**GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Come worship God with us!**  
Sunday School 9:45AM  
Worship Service 11:00AM

101 Greenhill Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
(301) 474-4212 [www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)

**Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church**  
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors  
[www.greenbeltumc.org](http://www.greenbeltumc.org) 301-474-9410

**Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor**

**Worship Service 10 a.m.**  
**Join us for Communion this Sunday.**

**Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church**  
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi  
Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)

**Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community**

May 7 10 a.m.  
**"We Respond (Part 2)"**

The Rev. Evan Keely, Interim Minister; with Carla Miller, DMRE; and the Choir

*Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism has issued a call to participate in a teach-in on racism and white supremacy (<http://blacklivesuu.com/teachin>). This is how we respond to that call.*

**Greenbelt Community Church**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1 Hillside (at Crescent Road)  
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings  
[www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org](http://www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org)

Sunday Worship  
10:15 a.m.

Rev. Glennyce Grindstaff, Pastor

**Mishkan Torah Congregation**

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223

*An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.*

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM. Educational programs for children K-12 and for adults. Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children. Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program. Opportunity for leadership development. Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors. Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities. Interfaith families are welcome.

*Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation*





# City Information

**GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL- REGULAR MEETING/ ACE STUDENT AWARDS, Municipal Building, May 8, 2017 – 8:00 p.m.**

**ORGANIZATION**  
Call to Order  
Roll Call  
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag  
Consent Agenda – Approval of Staff Recommendations  
(Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by \*] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)  
Approval of Agenda and Additions

**COMMUNICATIONS**  
- Presentations  
- ACE Student Awards  
- Legislative Wrap –Up – 22nd District Delegation  
- Kids to Parks Day Proclamation  
- Public Works Week  
- Public Hearing  
- Beer and Hard Cider at Greenbelt Farmers Market  
-Petitions and Requests  
(Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)  
- \* Minutes of Council Meetings  
- Administrative Reports  
- \*Committee Reports

**LEGISLATION**  
- An Ordinance to Amend Article 3 “Public Parks, Playgrounds, Etc., Generally” of Chapter 12 “Parks and Recreation” of the Greenbelt City Code to Allow the Sale and Sampling of Beer and Hard Cider at the Greenbelt Farmers Market between May 1st and December 24th of Each Year, - 2nd Reading, Adoption

**OTHER BUSINESS**  
- Council Activities  
- Council Reports

**MEETINGS**  
*NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public, and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10am on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.*

**MEETINGS FOR WEEK OF MAY 8-12**

Monday, May 8 at 5:30pm, **YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, Community Center, 15 Cresent Road, Rm. 103 *On the Agenda: Shirts, NLC 2017 reports, Recess vote, Skate Park Celebration 6/3*

Monday, May 8 at 7:30pm, **ACE STUDENT AWARDS RECEPTION**, Municipal Building, 25 Cresent Road.

Monday, May 8 at 8:00pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING/ACE STUDENT AWARDS**, Municipal Building, 25 Cresent Road. *Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 998, and Streaming at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv)*

Wednesday, May 10 at 7:00pm, **BUDGET WORK SESSION w/Recognition Groups** at Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Wednesday, May 10 at 7:30pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD** at Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. *On the Agenda: Training Video for Board Members, FY 2018 Budget Update and Update on planning projects*

Wednesday, May 10 at 7:30pm, **ZERO WASTE CIRCLE** at Public Works, 555 Crescent Road. *On the Agenda: Updates on Green Man, accomplishments, Organics Recycling Task Force, New Deal Café compost pilot , Discussion on reusable bag strategies (at Co-op, etc.), Follow-up on Community Impact Grants submission, Call for Other Special Events*

Thursday, May 11 at 6:30pm, **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD**, Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. *On the Agenda: Review and approval of report to Council on AMT Forest Health Assessment, Discussion on AMT Forest Preserve Health Assessment – Goals and Recommendations – Section 12 (Forest Health), Policy Statement, Section 1 (Introduction), Section 5 (Invasive Species), and more, time permitting, Discussion of Greenman event – volunteers needed, and Discussion of clean-up event.*

*This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.*

**OFFICIAL NOTICE**

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, an **Executive Session of the Greenbelt City Council** will be held on **Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 7:30 p.m. in the Library of the Municipal Building.**

The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss a Personnel Matter (City Manager Evaluation).

*\* It is anticipated Council will schedule this Executive Session at its Regular Meeting on Monday, May 8th, 8:00 p.m. in the Council Room of the Municipal Building. The Regular Meeting is open to the public. Additionally, the public may attend and observe the vote of Council to move into closed/executive session on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 7:30 p.m.*

Cindy Murray, City Clerk

**City of Greenbelt Recreation Department 2017 Summer Activity Guide**

Available in recreation centers & on-line at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation).

*Class registration: begins on May 15 for Greenbelt residents; May 22 for non-residents.*

*Classes begin on or after the week of June 19. se call 301-397-2200 for more information.*



**CONTRA DANCE**  
Greenbelt Community Ctr.  
Saturday, May 6  
Lesson: 6:30 pm. Dancing: 7:00 – 9:45 pm.  
Kappy Laning calling to Transatlantic Crossing  
\$10 at the door (cash only) for all dancers 18 and over.



**Community Art Drop-In Greenbelt Community Center 15 Crescent Road Sunday, May 7**  
All ages welcome.  
No reservations required.  
1:00-3:00 pm: FREE art workshop – make paper flowers with Artist in Residence Sherill Gross. Various techniques demonstrated for different ages/abilities. Keep some blooms, and contribute to a collaborative hanging garden!



**Tuesday, May 23 at 7:00pm Greenbriar Community Building 7600 Hanover Parkway Terrace Room**

Join us for the second in a series of forums where you can share your thoughts about the relationship between the community and the Greenbelt Police. Hosted by the City of Greenbelt’s Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB). All are welcome.

**We want to hear from you!**

If you cannot attend, you may provide your comments at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/policecommunityforum](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/policecommunityforum). If special accommodations are required, please contact the City Manager’s Office at 301-474-8000.



**Bike to Work Day**  
Friday, May 19, 2017  
Greenbelt Pit Stop  
Aquatic & Fitness Center  
101Centerway from 6:30-8:30am

*Please register at [www.biketoworkmetrodc.org](http://www.biketoworkmetrodc.org). Remember the first 16,000 registrants are eligible for a free t-shirt.*



**SATURDAY MAY 6 9am-3pm**

**550-A Crescent Road (Behind Police Station)**



- Come Check out our newly renovated cat rooms & and back yard
- Meet the Staff & Volunteers
- Free Micro chipping for Greenbelt Residents
- Adoption Fee's waived for cats
- Light Refreshments & Pizza!





**Women’s Bicycle Social Ride New Deal Café, 113 Centerway Sunday, May 7, 9am-11am, FREE!**

You must provide your own bike and helmet. All Participants will sign a liability waiver prior to joining. Contact Alison Longworth for more information 240-542-2198, [alongworth@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:alongworth@greenbeltmd.gov)

**Grief Counseling Support Group**

*In response to a recent tragic loss in our community. Facilitated by CARES Crisis Intervention Counselors*

**May 8 & 15 from 7:30-8:30pm Municipal Building 25 Crescent Road 301-345-6660**

Open to anyone wishing to attend. Additional counseling is available to those seeking additional support.

**VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES**

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Advisory Committee on Education (effective July 1<sup>st</sup>), Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Community Relations Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, Senior Citizen Advisory Board and Youth Advisory Committee.

**For information on how to apply contact 301-474-8000.**

**Check out the new Greenbelt Info Wall at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/infowall](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/infowall)**

**All city social sites, events and info in one place**





# Candidates for GHI Election

The following GHI members have formally indicated their agreement to serve if elected and supplied the following biographical sketches for publication by the Nominations & Elections Committee. GHI Members will elect Nominations & Elections Committee members during the Thursday, May 11 annual meeting. Election of Board of Directors and Audit Committee will begin when the annual meeting goes into recess, and continue Friday at the times listed at right. Board members are elected to staggered 2-year terms. There are 5 open Board positions in this year’s election, and the other 4 will be elected next year.

## Vote!

**Annual Meeting**  
7:30pm Thurs. May 11  
Community Center

**Friday May 12**  
7–10am & 5–8pm  
GHI Board Room  
Hamilton Place

## Board of Directors 2-Year Term

(Vote for no more than 5)

### Leah Cohen

4 Court Hillside

Ten years ago, my family moved to Greenbelt so that our daughter could grow up in a safe, tree-filled neighborhood. Since we’ve been here, I have co-oped at the Nursery School, taught art classes at the Community Center, and volunteered as the registrar for the Greenbelt Municipal Swim Team. I also started the “Greenbelt Community” listserv.

I have degrees in visual arts, education, and art history. I taught Head Start in DCPS for several years. Since 2009, I have been designing and teaching home-school classes in history, science, English and art. Our home on Hillside Road was a bit of a time capsule when we bought it, and I’ve gotten pretty good at plaster repairs, tiling, painting, landscaping—and hiring skilled contractors for the rest. With my daughter headed off to high school this fall, this is a good time to volunteer for GHI’s Board of Directors.

### Fritz Gutwein

4 Court Laurel Hill

Fritz Gutwein has been a GHI member since 2009 and is the Vice President of Institutional Advancement at Jubilee Housing in Adams Morgan. Prior to living in GHI Fritz served on the board of his homeowners association as Vice President and Secretary and was an elected member of the Clifton Community Council Board serving as Chair of the Community Resources Work Group of the Clifton Neighborhood Plan, both in Louisville, Kentucky. Fritz has served on the board of multiple non-profits, chairing strategic planning, personnel, and executive search committees. Fritz’s work history includes running a successful small business for over fifteen years and directing multiple community and faith-based nonprofits. Skills Fritz would bring to his service on the board are those of an advocate, problem solver, consensus builder, and a team player “who gets things done.”

### Chuck Hess

42 Court Ridge

Chuck Hess has served on the Board for twenty-four years, twelve of which as Treasurer. He has served on the Audit Committee and many other GHI Committees and Task Forces. He believes his major accomplishments are Assuring that GHI cannot be

sold unless more than a thousand members agree, establishing the Replacement Reserves, and increasing the returns on our investments, saving our cooperative hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. If it were not for these achievements, GHI would have needed to borrow millions with tens of millions of dollars more to come. Instead GHI is in solid financial shape.

He is proud of GHI as one of the best Co-ops in the world. He believes that his experience and knowledge will benefit GHI in maintaining its high standards for providing well-run, efficient, and sustainable homes for its members, and looks forward to making it even better in the future.

### William C. Jones

15 Court Ridge

I am a retired college math and computer science professor who has lived in GHI since 2004. I have been a member of GHI’s Finance Committee and GHI’s Investment Committee since 2006. I was first elected to the GHI Board Of Directors in May of 2011. Also:

- Treasurer of Streetlights Of Bethany, helping Greenbelt’s homeless (since 2008).
- Treasurer of the New Deal Café Coop (since 2016), and on the Board of the Coop Grocery (since 2012).
- Developed GHI’s float entry in the 2012 Labor Day Parade, a one-minute history play.
- Formerly a volunteer intake worker at Bread For The City in DC (2004–2011), a volunteer reading tutor at Greenbelt Elementary School (2011–2016), and actor and director at Greenbelt Arts Theater.
- Currently deliver Meals On Wheels in this area about twice a week

### Paul Kapfer

6 Court Hillside

I have been a GHI member since 2013, when I moved back to the Washington, DC, area for a second time as an active-duty Navy attorney (JAG). Until retiring in 2015 I was In charge of the legal assistance program at the Washington Navy Yard for Sailors and their families. At GHI Board meetings, I was impressed with the care taken to manage for the long term, welcome people with diverse backgrounds and talents, and be accountable to members who choose to invest their savings here. These are the principles I returned to while serving on the Audit Committee from 2015-2017, and they would guide my work as a member of the Board of Directors.

### Steve Skolnik

8 Court Ridge

- Moved to GHI August, 1977 - frame home on Plateau Place
- Moved to block home on Ridge Rd. January, 1981
- B.Sc., University of Waterloo, 1971 - Engineering and Physics
- Master electrician and contractor with over 35 years construction trade experience (retired)
- Current Chair, City of Greenbelt Board of Appeals for over 15 years
- Current member, City of Greenbelt ‘Green Team’
- Current member, GHI Buildings Committee since 2008
- Current member, GHI Board of Directors since 2013
- Current President, GHI Board of Directors since 2014
- Skills include:
  - Understanding of commercial contracting process
  - Extensive experience managing large projects
  - Excellent communication skills
  - Excellent personnel management skills
  - Understanding of electrical power and distribution systems
  - Special interest in alternative (solar) energy

### Linda Warren Seely

15 Court Laurel Hill

I recently moved to Greenbelt from Jackson, Tennessee after I accepted a job as Director of the Dispute Resolution Section for the American Bar Association. When I began looking for a home for my husband and me, I discovered the town of Greenbelt and quickly became a fan. I want to be able to give back to this community in a meaningful way and believe I have a skill set that may be valuable.

I am a licensed attorney and mediator. I have served on numerous boards of directors including the Memphis Bar Association, the Conflict Resolution Center of West Tennessee, the Jackson Swim Club and as a trustee for the First United Methodist Church in Jackson. I have worked for over 20 years for nonprofits, have drafted bylaws and budgets, written grants, run meetings and am generally familiar with how boards of directors operate.

### Peter Toth

2 Court Gardenway

I was born in Budapest, Hungary. My mother and I emigrated to the United States in 1965 and I have made Prince George’s County my home since.

I became a GHI member in 2009. I love the sense of commu-

nity and being part of a cooperative. My neighbors, the walkability, the Roosevelt Center, the Forest Preserve, and the Aquatic Center are just a few of the things I enjoy about living in Greenbelt.

Now that our son is grown, I feel like I have time to give back to the community. I am a network engineer by profession but I have experience in residential construction from many years of maintaining my previous home and rental properties.

In the spirit of cooperation, I have gone ten words under the 150-word limit for this biography. I’ll make them available to another candidate.

## Audit Committee

### 1-Year Term

(Vote for no more than 3)

### Jonathan Gordy

2 Court Plateau

I have been a GHI member—with my wife Susan Stewart—since 2006. I believe firmly in the cooperative model of governance, ethical decision making, and giving back to the community that has been so important to me. In the past, I have been a member of the GHI Audit Committee and a member of the board of the Greenbelt Farmers Market. Since 2005, I have worked for the federal government, in the area of administrative law and litigation.

### Henry Haslinger

4 Court Ridge

Henry is seeking the opportunity to serve his third term on the Audit Committee, as he nears the end of his second term. In recent years, Henry has also been elected to three terms on the Nominations and Elections Committee, including two terms as the Committee’s Chair.

After earning a degree from the University of Maryland, majoring in Business Administration, Henry has been working in the public sector, first with the Park and Planning Commission and then with Prince George’s County, where he focuses on the acquisition and management of the County Government’s real estate.

Henry is hoping you, the GHI membership, will decide to give him the opportunity to continue serving as a member of the Audit Committee for the coming term. Great strides were made by the Audit Committee in the past 12 months, with many important findings already reported to you, regarding GHI’s operations.



# Letters continued from page 2

the proposal and approval process is different and easier to satisfy in Prince George’s County than Montgomery County. In Montgomery County, if residents say no, then it’s a no go. Not the case apparently in Prince George’s County, unfortunately.

It is interesting to note that only one representative from T-Mobile present at Tuesday’s meeting lives in Prince George’s County. Other representatives from T-Mobile and Milestone present at the meeting live in Virginia, even Derek Green, communications liaison for Milestone, whom I thought was disrespectful and spoke condescendingly to those in attendance. He said several times during the meeting, “we will have to agree to disagree.” Well, Mr. Green, I assume we will have to agree to disagree on the harmful effects of cell

tower radiation on those in close proximity. Fortunately, there was a representative present from the Environmental Health Trust and the Maryland Coalition Against Cell Towers at Schools, Theodora Scarato, who provided information on the dangers and harmful effects of cell tower radiation. We will also have to agree to disagree that Milestone and T-Mobile are being shady.

Did you know? That one cell tower can accommodate up to six antennas. That means that this cell tower, if erected, could significantly impact the safety and health of residents, not to mention the value of our homes. All the while T-Mobile can increase their profits by selling antenna space to other cellular providers.

A long-time resident of Greenbelt said, “When I think of Greenbelt, it conjures up feelings

of a beautiful, green, environmentally friendly neighborhood,” and that the proposed cell tower would diminish this image.

Those residents in attendance unanimously raised their hands and voices against the erecting of a cell tower on the grounds of Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

I’m not sure if frustrated and concerned residents can do anything to stop the cell tower from being erected at this point. But, I believe that knowledge and information is key. Residents need to be made aware and become community activists.

Contact your local officials and say No to the cell tower at Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

County Executive Rushern Baker, countyexecutive@co.pg.md.us

Chief Executive Officer Prince George’s County Public Schools,

Dr. Kevin Maxwell, ceo@pgcps.org, 301-952-6000

Councilmember Todd Turner, district4@co.pg.md.us, 301-952-3094

State Senator Paul Pinsky, paul.pinsky@senate.state.md.us

Greenbelt Board of Education Member, Lupi Quinteros-Grady, lupi.grady@pgcps.org

Jacquelyn Hair

## Urges Participation In GHI Election

I was glad to see Leah Cohen’s and Henry Haslinger’s letters in the last News Review. As Ms. Cohen wrote, the Audit Committee is doing excellent work in examining GHI’s policies and procedures and exposing unsound practices and potential problems, particularly financial ones. We are fortunate to have

committee members who are diligently working on behalf of the membership and willing to speak out when they find issues that go against best practices. I’d much rather have that kind of Audit Committee so that I am aware of potential issues and can evaluate the situation for myself, rather than a committee that goes along to get along.

I appreciated Mr. Haslinger’s letter for making me aware of the proposed bylaws amendment to allow one committee member to demand a meeting schedule to address his or her specific needs. I don’t think we want to codify a proposal that could hold an entire committee hostage to the wishes of one member.

We are at an important crossroads for GHI. Our co-op is facing fiscal challenges, aging infrastructure and a difficult political climate. I urge other members to research all candidates and resist an automatic vote for board incumbents. New blood in any board and especially in leadership is critical to healthy, forward-thinking organizations. In my almost 12 years here, we’ve had at least five leadership changes, and I commend those volunteers for recognizing when it is time to make room for others with fresh approaches and different skills. I am not rejecting incumbency outright, I think a mix of those with new perspectives and people with working knowledge is useful. It is really about what each board member stands for and how their collective oversight and decision-making positively or negatively impact our future.

What I most want for our co-op now are leaders who are member-centered, democratic, open to constructive criticism, creative and focused on fiscal oversight and stewardship. We are fortunate to have a choice in our board election this year. Let’s all think through where we are as a co-op and what we need at this critical juncture in our history.

Cynthia Newcomer

## Appreciates Audit Committee

I want to thank Leah Cohen for her illuminating letter about the Audit Committee. Last year was the first time I saw an audit report in the 17 years I’ve been here. I also want to commend the Audit Committee for their work and how impressed I was with the details. I just finished reading the Annual Report and understood it much more after having read the earlier Audit Report by the committee and Leah’s summary. It has shaken me up to realize that a cooperative the size of GHI has been taking care of business with such lax practices. We are so lucky for two reasons: one, finally having a committee delving into our affairs and two, that there has only been one misappropriation of the funds when \$35,000 went missing. With our fees going higher it is so important that there are tight controls on our finances. With the upcoming elections it is also important to our community that people get out and vote.

Ellen Weiss

See LETTERS, page 12



# Candidates for GHI Election (continued)

## Audit Committee (continued from prior page)

**Jacqueline Lilly**  
13 Court Hillside

I moved to GHI as a child and have been here for almost 25 years. I became a GHI member in 2012. Over the years I have been an active volunteer in a variety of community organizations. I have served as Greenbelt Elementary School PTA president from June 2015 through June 2017. I was a member of the Greenbelt Nursery School (GNS) cooperative for 5 years, 2010–2015. While at GNS I served on their board for 4 years, one year as hospitality chair followed by 3 years as board president. I have worked at the Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative Supermarket for 13 years in a variety of positions.

I am excited at the opportunity to become more involved with GHI. I am a supporter of cooperatives and feel my previous experience on other boards will help me to be able to serve the GHI membership if elected.

## Nominations & Elections Committee 1-Year Term (Vote for no more than 5)

**Alex Barnes**  
4 Court Crescent

I joined the N&E Committee in early 2016, shortly after becoming a GHI member. There was a vacancy on the Committee and I thought this was something I could do without making too big of a time commitment. I’m interested in trying different ideas to improve the N&E’s work; such as at the annual meeting registering members by address instead of by name, and holding the candidates’ forum ear-

lier so that we have more time to consider the candidates before the election. I enjoy working with the other members of the Committee (Tom, Terry x 2, Anna) and highly recommend them for reelection.

**Theresa Henderson**  
1 Court Laurel Hill

Theresa was born and raised in the Washington, D.C. area. She has lived in GHI since 1983. She currently enjoys living on Laurel Hill Rd. with her husband Steve, their two adult children Maddy and Steven, their two cats and a bird. She is currently employed at the USDA Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center. She is presently serving on the Nominations and Elections Committee for her third term and has been delighted to work with the other committee members and staff. She is also serving as the president of the Greenbelt Tennis Association, a committee member at Greenbelt Community Church and the treasurer of Altrusa International of Montgomery County.

**Tom Jones**  
1 Court Woodland Way

Tom was raised on Northway and has been a GHI member since 1997, has a Bachelor’s degree in Physics and an MBA. He works as a Program Manager for the University of Maryland Center for Advanced Transportation Technology Laboratory. Tom is running to serve for a fourth year on the Nominations & Elections committee.

You may recall Tom asked a question about the finance report at the 2010 GHI annual meeting; as a result he was asked to chair the Finance Report Subcommittee that drafted revisions now implemented to make each year’s report easier to understand. In 2011, he chaired the GHI website redesign committee resulting in the new www.ghi.coop site.

Tom also serves on the Audit Committee for the New Deal Café, the Board of Directors for the News Review, and for 22 years served on the Board of Rapidan Camps, all cooperatives from Greenbelt.

**Therese Kucera**  
3 Court Crescent

Terry Kucera has lived in Greenbelt for over twenty years and has been a member of GHI since 2000. She is currently on the board of the Greenbelt Farmers Market, and has served on the boards of the Greenbelt Bicycle Coalition and the New Deal Cafe. She has served two years on the N&E committee, and is up for another one.

**Anna D. Socrates**  
14 Court Ridge

I moved to Greenbelt in December 2007 and have lived on Ridge Road ever since. Although I loved my urban lifestyle, Greenbelt seemed so fresh and clean after the grit of Baltimore. The engaged and outspoken co-op members were entirely new in my experience, though their friendliness reminded me of the Midwest, where I grew up.

I soon found my niche with other knitters, bus riders, and fellow writers and editors on the Communications Committee. These new friends led to other friends and activities in Greenbelt—that is how our town works. I’ve also gained personal satisfaction and professional growth as a writer through the many opportunities for community involvement in Greenbelt. I have served on the Nominations and Elections Committee, as well as the Additions Maintenance Task Force, and hope to continue ensuring that members have choices and that electoral processes are fair and efficient.





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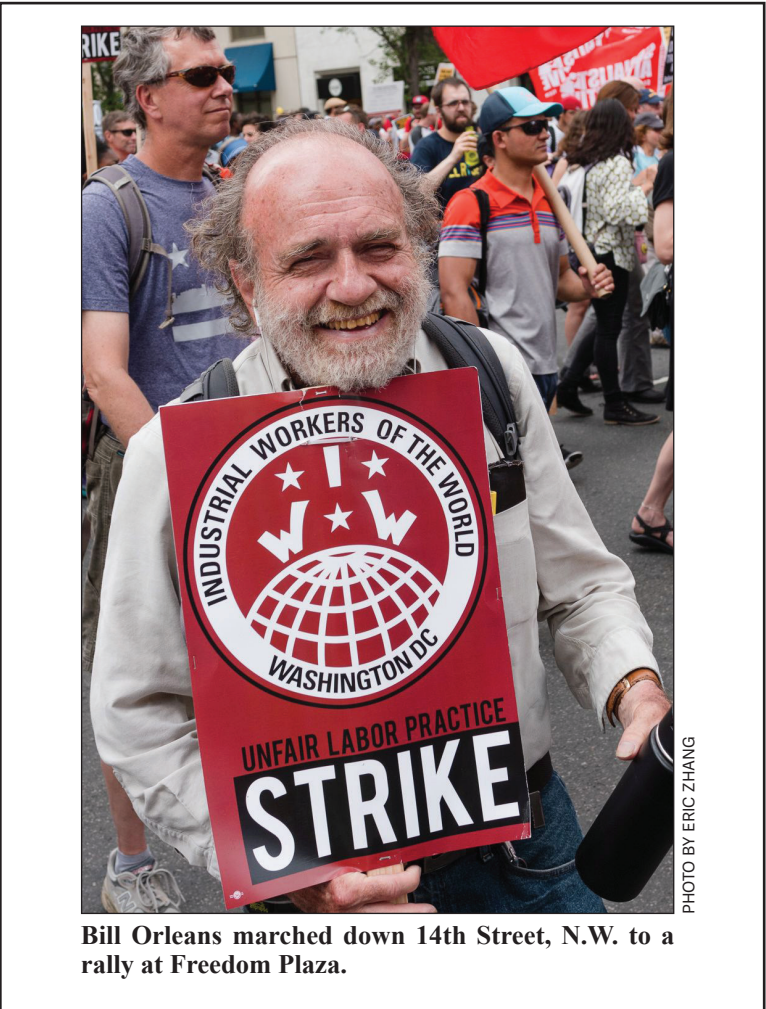
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Bill Orleans marched down 14th Street, N.W. to a rally at Freedom Plaza.

PAPER continued from page 1

of the additional printing cost would be defrayed and that the use of color would be an attractive inducement to readers and advertisers. This conservative view was blown out of the water as color grew more and more popular with advertisers – paying for itself and then some. Not only that, but readers and advertisers responded very positively to the lively and colorful product that ensued. This positive reaction fueled a desire to publish in full color – but this was only feasible at that time if rates were raised across all advertisers – including those who didn’t want to pay for color at all. So the idea went on the back burner.

That situation changed in moving our printing to Engle Printing and Publishing Co., Inc. when color throughout the paper became a realistic option in terms of cost. Engle’s rate structure allowed the News Review to print a full color paper for less than it cost to print the old partial-color paper. Rather than average out costs so formerly monochrome advertisers paid more for color they hadn’t asked for and former color advertisers paid much less, the paper decided to abolish color charges altogether and leave its per column inch rates the same. This new rate baseline can be gradually adjusted as financial circumstances warrant. Advertising revenue is subject to wide variations and is the paper’s predominant source of income and the future picture may require adjustments.

**Commercial Advertisers**  
Per column inch commercial rates remain the same as before. The more advertising a commercial entity purchases, the more discount it receives – with seven tiers of volume that are requalified quarterly. Advertisers who were paying a surcharge for color will no longer pay anything additional. This results in either the same or lower cost for any commercial advertisement compared to previously. Any ad submitted in color will appear in color both in the paper and on the website.

**Non-Profit Advertisers**  
Rates for qualifying organiza-

tions remain the same but fund-raising activities of such organizations will now receive the non-profit rate. These were previously assessed at the commercial rate. There are no discounts to this rate for volume purchases but the rate is lower than any commercial rate tier. Advocacy and political ads will continue to be charged the basic commercial rate.

**Inserts**  
The weekly insertion fee will be reduced as a result of decreased cost of insertion from Engle which the News Review is passing on. The new rate is competitive and is available to advertisers as an economical way of distributing flyers throughout the city.

**Preferred Placement**  
Previously, the paper charged a 25 percent fee for placement on the back page (subject to availability and other constraints relating to ad size). This fee has been broadened in scope to cover requests for placement on any available page.

**No Fees**  
The paper previously charged a small fee to initially set up an ad and make updates. These fees have been abolished. If an ad requires substantial work either requested by the customer or suggested to improve readability, assistance is available at \$25 per hour by prior arrangement.

**Classifieds**  
Classified rates remain the same.

**Future Actions**  
This action by the News Review board reset the rates based on projections of prior years’ income. In the publishing industry, advertisers come and go based on their own business needs and there’s no telling what future years will hold. The News Review will reassess its rates periodically and keep them in step with costs and advertising volume going forward. This new baseline is a decisive step that results in a fairer and more sustainable and logical rate structure and a better point of departure for the future.

And it’s the right thing to do.

# Robotics Team Meets in Mall And Competes Nationally

by Dylan Sinn

At Team Illusion’s headquarters, tucked between Planet Fitness and TJ Maxx in Beltway Plaza, Maryanne Cashmore and her daughter belt out the robotics club’s battle cry. “Humpty Dumpty climbs a rope / in 1.5 seconds, that’s totally dope. / Gets gears in autonomous, teleop too. / He’s Team 4464’s illusion come true”

Those who aren’t familiar with the FIRST Robotics Competition might find the chant difficult to decipher, but to this group of enthusiastic middle and high school students, it is a clever reflection of the club’s most impressive accomplishment this year.

Humpty Dumpty is the club’s robot. It is a 120 pound, six-wheeled square, with blue and red cloth siding that has “4464,” the group’s official FIRST identification number, stenciled in white lettering on the side. In the middle of the square, suspended above a tight tangle of wiring, rests what looks like a kite holder, with Velcro wrapped around it instead of string.

Team Illusion, 4464’s chosen nickname, has been working on Humpty Dumpty since FIRST announced this year’s challenge on January 7. The team worked for six weeks to build a robot that could climb a rope, move on its own and place a gear on a peg, among other challenges.

Since its completion, Team Illusion and Humpty Dumpty have competed in a pair of local competitions in Maryland and a regional competition in Richmond, Virginia. At the end of April, the group travelled to St. Louis for the FIRST Championship match, the season’s culmination.

Just making it to St. Louis is an accomplishment for this group, which is considerably younger and more disparately located than the high school teams it competes against. It has taken a confluence of factors to make Team Illusion successful, including teens with an unusual passion for learning and engineering, adults in the field willing to teach them and a driving force to bring them together.

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The sun is out after a rainy morning and at Roosevelt Center, the town’s creators have gathered for the Maker Festival.

In one corner of the festival, Vijay Kowtha stands behind a table devoted to Team Illusion. Kowtha is a Greenbelter and the team’s coach as well as one of its biggest cheerleaders. He grew up in India, but moved to Brooklyn, New York in middle school before attending NYU and later Rutgers University.

After college, he taught engineering at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, which is where he became involved with FIRST competitions. However, he also worked at the Naval Research Lab and his schedule only permitted him to run the club for an hour after school. His team’s performance suffered. In 2012, he decided to create his own team so he could make his own schedule. He sought out students who were interested in robotics but had no team with which to compete. Team Illusion was born.

Without a high school to call



Team Illusion, a Greenbelt community robotics club, will be competing in a world competition next week in St. Louis called FIRST Robotics Competition. You can watch the competition live on social media and the competition’s website. Pictured: Hector Martin, a mentor, Zach, Joseph, Joshua and Joel.

home, though, Kowtha needed a place for his team to practice. He first approached Greenbelt Mayor Emmett Jordan asking for some space, but was turned down.

“I wish that we could accommodate him, but we really don’t have the space,” Jordan said. “Greenbelt has a lot of programs and it’s the storage [of all the equipment] that’s an issue. If it was a class once a week or once every two weeks, we’d probably be able to accommodate him.”

Team Illusion does take up a lot of space. Its current workspace features a full tool bench and an array of tools that would make Tim “The Tool Man” Taylor jealous. That’s on top of all of the materials needed to build the robot, as well as computers for programming it.

For Team Illusion’s fifth year, he went to Quantum Companies,

the owners of Beltway Plaza, and charmed Marc Kapastin, the company’s general counsel, into providing a vacant store for the team to use.

“He impressed me with his caring and expertise and his commitment to the kids,” Kapastin said. “He’s a brilliant guy, so engaged and dynamic. [Quantum] saw it as an opportunity to give back to the community.”

Kowtha wants his teams to be successful at the robotics competitions, but that’s not his main focus. “It’s not about the robots, it’s about children having fun and learning,” he said. “Failures are where they learn. The fear of, ‘Oh my God, it’s over,’ shouldn’t be there. They should come up with a new alternative strategy all the time, and that’s how you

See **ROBOTICS**, page 10



M

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COUNCIL continued from page 1

replica guns. He said that kids could get shot if police officers or others mistake the toys for real guns. He noted that the convenience store in Franklin Park sells such replicas.

In presenting his petition, Gordon referred to a shooting the previous day. Ard gave council an update on this incident. She said that shots were fired April 23 in the 6100 block of Breezewood Court. No one was hurt and a warrant for the arrest of the suspect has been issued. She said that the parties involved knew each other and that police say that there was no danger to other residents.

**Budget Hearing**

Several residents offered comments on the proposed budget. These included a request for purchasing new chairs and risers for the Community Center, for more information to be provided about the city's expenditures on travel and conferences and for sufficient funding to permit recording of all council meetings and worksessions along with meetings of the city's Board of Elections. Other requests were for sufficient funding for the Greenbelt Museum to repair the water damage, for adding a picture of Rexford Tugwell in the council chambers along with those of Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt and for a plaque that shows the names of all who served as city managers.

There was also a request to add a section to the city's website regarding environmental health issues such as lead exposure. Coincidentally, the city had recently added the Greenbelt Info Wall on its website containing a Green Steps section with environmental information.

**Presentations**

Mayor Emmett Jordan presented certificates of recognition to members of the Eleanor Roosevelt science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) team, congratulating them on winning the grand prize of the World SMARTS STEM Challenge. For more information on this accomplishment see the story on page 8 of the April 13 News Review.

He also presented the Older Americans Month proclamation to Joyce Kolenky, service coordi-

nator for Green Ridge House, on behalf of the Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program, the Golden Age Club, the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee and all older Americans in Greenbelt.

**Petitions and Requests**

Bill Orleans called on the city to provide better information on the content of executive sessions in place of broad categories such as property acquisition, annexation and potential litigation. Such descriptions do not allow residents to know if it is a new issue or the continuation of topics previously discussed, he said.

**Legislation**

Council unanimously approved two ordinances affecting the city's building codes. The first would bring city code into alignment with state law by requiring all homes to have 10-year sealed smoke detectors with silence/hush controls and requires that all hard-wired systems be upgraded to current standards. The ordinance also requires homes with attached garages or gas-fired furnaces or wood stoves to install carbon monoxide detectors as is required by county law.

The second ordinance approved was to mandate the use of window guards or window opening limiters on windows with a sill height of 24 inches or less where the window is more than 72 inches above the outside ground level. The ordinance is intended to prevent falls resulting from children leaning out the window or leaning against a window screen.

An ordinance to permit the Greenbelt Farmers Market to include beer and hard cider, along with the previously permitted wine, at weekly tastings was introduced for first reading. After a brief silence while the mayor waited for someone to introduce this motion, Councilmember Konrad Herling did the deed. The ordinance will be presented for second reading and final adoption at the next council meeting.

**Advisory Boards**

Council accepted the resignation of Edward Hickey from the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee and Susan Breon's resignation, effective July 1, from the Advisory Committee on Education.



The ERHS STEM team received a certificate of recognition from council. From left: ERHS Principal Reginald McNeill, Kelechi Nwanna, Danielle Wilson, Annie Gomez, Dave Eisenberg. Not pictured Audrey Rappaport, Caleb Wheeler, Chiebuka Ohams, Chinazam Uhegwu, and Michael Nagel

ROBOTICS continued from page 9

learn to be creative.”

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Three of Team Illusion's members are seated around Humpty Dumpty at the club's headquarters in Beltway Plaza discussing how to improve the Velcro kite holder, also known as the robot's rope-climbing mechanism.

On either end of the holder are gears that make it turn. Team Illusion has been successful in the rope-climbing phase of competitions by maneuvering the robot so that the rope sticks to the Velcro. Then, the robot's controller can turn the gears and the 120 pound robot climbs - although that might not be the appropriate term since it is much more akin to "rolling" up - the rope in less than two seconds, the fastest time of any team it has taken on in competition.

To keep that advantage, the three members of the team at the meeting tonight, two weeks before the competition in St. Louis, are trying to figure out how to shape a clear plastic sheet and attach it over the gears so the rope won't get caught in them.

Wilfred Nono, a 15-year-old Montgomery Blair High School student, explains what they're trying to do.

"We need to shape the plastic...fiber..." he says before pausing, unsure of the formal term for the plastic sheet's material.

"This is polycarbonate," Toby Kruhm, Nono's 14-year-old teammate, interjects.

"Polycarbonate, thank you," Nono says, smiling. "We need to shape it so it can go around the gears, so it doesn't interfere with their spinning."

If Nono goes into his chosen field after leaving Team Illusion, he'll probably hear the term "polycarbonate" a lot, since it's used in the construction of some planes.

"I've always wanted to be an engineer," Nono said. "I'm really creative and I like coming up with new ideas and problem solving, so I thought an engineer would be good major for me."

Kruhm is also expecting to be an engineer. "It's been what I've wanted to do ever since I could wield a screwdriver, it's just that this is my first time being able to do it since I was way too young before," said Kruhm, who is in his first year with the team. "Robotics just sort of clung to me."

He's proud of the electrical system he built, of course, but he's also proud of how he's been able to handle some of the "scary" parts of being on a robotics team. "I'm not a good speaker, so going to other teams to talk about strategy and stuff, talking to sponsors [is kind of scary], but I like it all, I'm really passionate about it," said Kruhm, who is home-schooled.

Coach Kowtha searches out members like Kruhm who don't have a team at their school. After being part of Team Illusion, it's common for those members to split off and start their own robotics club at the school, once they've learned how FIRST works.

"Every year we lose about half of our team from the year before," Coach Kowtha said.

Cashmore, who had one son on the team until he graduated from high school and has another currently competing (as well as a daughter who tags along), quickly

corrects him.

"We're not really losing them," she said. "We're an incubator team and we've incubated at least seven local teams."

With the addition of Kruhm and several other members, Nono has seen a change in the team this year.

"We made it to St. Louis and we wouldn't have been able to do that last year with only five people and two experienced people," he said. "Since the team's growing, I think we can do more as more people join."

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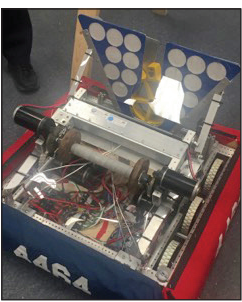
It is just days before the competition in St. Louis and Kowtha has organized a field trip for Team Illusion to the Naval Heritage Center in Washington. In a theater room beneath the museum area of the Center, the team's members listen to Naval scientists, Kowtha's colleagues and friends, present on topics of their choice.

One floor above, Zach Liebowitz displays a booth with sample robots for curious memorial-goers, much like Kowtha had done in Greenbelt two weeks earlier.

"It's nice to see them go from, 'This stuff is magical,' to, 'Oh, this is how it works,'" he said after showing children how to use the controller. Liebowitz is a computer scientist at NRL. He is just one of several scientists and engineers who work to help Team Illusion.

Leo Yon is another. He's a mechanical engineer at the U.S. Department of Transportation and like Liebowitz he says it's worthwhile when he sees that the kids are learning.

"It's pretty rewarding to see, in particular [Kowtha] has a lot of ninth graders, and you'll see ninth graders who don't necessarily think they have the ability or the capacity to compete against [high schoolers]," Yon said. "But the reality is when



Humpty Dumpty

you look at a lot of these teams, there are adults behind the scenes making it run and the kids get to work one-on-one with adults and they get a lot of confidence. It's really about the kids."

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The season hasn't all gone smoothly for Team Illusion. In the Richmond competition, it dominated the rope-climbing portion of the challenge, but mechanical and electrical failures hurt the team in other areas.

In addition, the team is practicing this season with the knowledge that it will be working elsewhere next year. Just weeks after the St. Louis competition, it will need to move out of Beltway Plaza because Quantum plans to convert the space into a restaurant or retail store, according to Kapastin.

Kowtha is working on a solution to that problem that involves a move to Bladensburg Community Center and possibly a partnership with the University of Maryland's computer science program. Once the move happens, however, Kowtha thinks it could be time for him to step back from the team.

"The way I see it is every five years or so you need a change," he said. "I don't want us to be in a rut."

For now, though, the team remains focused on the competition.

And it is well they did. With almost 1,400 teams, the competition in St. Louis is huge. Coach Kowtha said Team Illusion got off to a slow start. They lost their first three rounds. But the weekend finished with an even score card of five wins and five losses. "We were very ecstatic with the performance of our team," he said.

*Dylan Sinn is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.*

SATURDAY, MAY 13<sup>TH</sup> AND SUNDAY MAY 14<sup>TH</sup>

Roosevelt Center Plaza, Greenbelt. Maryland

Go to [greenbeltgreenmanfestival.org](http://greenbeltgreenmanfestival.org) for more details



# Greenbelters Argue Against Cell Tower on School Site

by Julie Depenbrock

Dasan Bobo has lived on Mandan Terrace in Greenbelt for 22 years.

“I bought the home from my mother two years ago,” said Bobo. “I love the town I live in.”

But now a proposed cell tower at Eleanor Roosevelt High School has Bobo and his wife Lena Pratt ready to move.

Edwin Monono has been a Greenbelt resident for 16 years. He and his family live on the same street as Pratt and Bobo. Monono’s son, an eighth grader, plans to attend Roosevelt next year.

Monono said that if the tower is built, he too will move.

“We don’t need this in our school community,” Monono said.

He, Pratt and Bobo were among the crowd packed into a backroom of Seabrook Seventh-day Adventist Church on April 25 to discuss the Roosevelt tower.

A number of residents oppose the tower, citing health concerns associated with radiation, property devaluation and visual impact.

A 2011 contract between Milestone Communications and the Prince George’s County Board of Education allows for the construction of up to three towers at 73 school sites in the county.

The county receives \$25,000 for each tower built on school property, as well as 40 percent of profits. The funds go toward the Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) general operating budget, said PGCPS Communications Officer Raven Hill.

The board voted on the leasing agreement in 2010, when William Hite was superintendent, and signed the contract the next year.

Raaheela Ahmed, school board member for District 5, has spent the past few months trying to find out more about this agreement and how it came about.

The master lease, Ahmed said, was originally for 2011 to 2016, but has a renewal clause that eliminates the need for additional approval.

Automatic renewal means the contract is now in effect until 2021.

Milestone’s agreement with Prince George’s County is just one of more than 50 such partnerships across six states. It has close to 3,000 current and prospective sites dotting the East Coast, with the majority concentrated in the mid-Atlantic states.

Len Forkas, founder of Milestone, said the idea for a tower at Roosevelt came from T-Mobile.

“They approached us,” Forkas said.

Tim Dwyer, a zoning manager for T-Mobile’s tower and rooftop sites, said the company was simply trying to stay ahead of the market.

“They’re spending money to try to help their customers to get better service proactively, as opposed to retroactively, when all of a sudden in a year everyone has dropped calls,” Dwyer said.

Much of the frustration at Tuesday’s meeting came from what many community members saw as a lack of transparency on the part of both Milestone and the Board of Education.

Sean Patrick Hughes, an attorney who represents Milestone, said about 3,000 notifications had

been mailed out.

But many in the crowd argued that they had received no such mail.

“I don’t think you’ve met the requirement for providing notice,” Greenbelt Mayor Emmett Jordan said.

Others were bothered that a meeting for something happening in Greenbelt was held in Lanham, five miles down the road.

“Greenbelt, the city council, the mayor and our city manager had asked several times, ‘please set a time, a date.’ We got no response,” Councilmember Judith Davis said. “I want to know from all of you here that you are definitely going to meet in Greenbelt in a very short amount of time, in a place where everyone in Greenbelt can come.”

Presenters and community members clashed several times in the two-hour meeting, often drowning out each other’s words.

“This is not a healthy dialogue,” said Derrick Green, a land use consultant for Milestone and an elder in the Seabrook church.

Green attempted to calm the room, assigning numbers to anyone who had a question they needed answered.

One question came from Rachel Collins, a 13-year-old. She asked how the cell tower at Roosevelt could affect children.

“We like to play outside non-stop so I’m worried this can affect us,” Collins said.

Kevin McManus, senior program director for EBI Consulting, responded, citing information from the National Institutes of Health and the American Cancer Society.

“The only consistently recognized biological effect of radiofrequency energy is heating,” McManus quoted from the NIH website.

The most recent study on the effects of radiofrequency emissions comes from the National Toxicology Program. Dr. David McCormick, president and director of IIT Research Institute in Chicago, was principal investigator of the study.

“The key issue here is whether there is actually any exposure,” McCormick said. He explained that the intensity of radiofrequency radiation from a cell tower declines rapidly as you move away from the antenna.

“If the cell tower is in close proximity to the school building, there is certainly some risk of exposure,” McCormick said. “If there is exposure, there is potential risk of a negative health effect.”

“However,” he added. “In virtually all of the cases that I have seen (at least in the Chicago area), the distance between the location of the cell tower and occupied areas of the school building is large – often hundreds of feet.” In those cases, McCormick said, radiofrequency fields will fall to zero before they reach occupied areas of the building.

“If exposure is zero, the possibility of an adverse health effect is zero,” McCormick said.

McCormick said parents need to weigh their children’s exposure to a cell tower against exposure to a cell phone. Though the intensity of radiofrequency

radiation from the phone is less than that generated by the tower, the proximity of the phone to the user’s head means that the amount of radiofrequency radiation deposited in potentially sensitive structures, like the brain, is much greater “when using the phone than when sitting in a classroom in a building with a cell tower that is 100 feet away,” McCormick said.

Science aside, residents still question the location of the tower.

“For me, this is industry. This is emitting radiation. It’s a pollutant,” Bobo said. “To put an industry building, facility, in a residential area, on a school zone is just wrong.”

Nicole Farrow, who is part of the administrative team at Roosevelt, extended an open invitation to Milestone to come to the high school in the next 30 days and meet with faculty, staff and students.

“Most of the individuals who work there, who are there every day, who work with students, they have no idea that this is where we are in the process,” Farrow said.

The link to the preliminary report from the National Toxicology Program is [biorxiv.org/content/early/2016/06/23/055699](https://www.biorxiv.org/content/early/2016/06/23/055699)

*Julie Depenbrock is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.*

## CELL TOWER continued from page 1

county law specifically provides for locating cell towers on public property. The school board, having approved the agreement with Milestone, does not vote on the location of any specific tower. She has talked to the city’s telecommunications lawyer who has suggested some questions to pose.

**Comments**

Bill Manico of Greenwood Village complained about the lack of transparency in the process for approving cell towers on school property. He said that under the agreement, the tower could be up to 120 feet high and two more towers could be placed in this location as well. Manico also suspects that the wireless companies are targeting minority communities in selecting locations for additional cell towers. Theodora Scarato, director of public affairs for the Environmental Health

Trust, supported this charge. Several speakers commented on the impact having a cell tower practically in their backyards would have on their property values.

While council unanimously approved sending letters to Milestone and to the county executive and the PGCPS CEO expressing their concerns about and opposition to this project, this will not be council’s first attempt at communication with PGCPS. The council packet for this meeting included a copy of a letter sent by Maxwell in early February stating that “The school community has been notified for their input and comments,” and “This partnership is going to be beneficial to all.”

Note: See separate story on this page about the April 25 community meeting on this topic.



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[www.greenbeltfarmersmarket.org](http://www.greenbeltfarmersmarket.org)



Letters continued from page 7

Member Voice

In light of the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) Audit Committee’s report, minority statement and majority response, the upcoming Annual Membership meeting (on Thursday, May 11, at 7:30 p.m.) is our opportunity to evaluate each candidate standing for election to the Board of Directors and Audit Committee.

How have they proven their respect for the committee’s oversight role? Have the board candidates articulated a vision for and commitment to solving documented problems? The report findings provide a yardstick we can use to measure incumbent track records and new candidates’ qualifications.

The Audit Committee report organized its findings into three categories: financial management oversight, internal controls and cooperative principle of membership control. This excerpt from the last category perfectly encapsulates why being informed matters, why voting matters and why holding to account those elected to serve matters:

“One of the key principles of a cooperative is membership control, with the membership actively participating in setting policies and making major decisions. [T]his is captured in the GHI Bylaws as follows: the membership has the responsibility for ‘determining policies of the Corporation’ and for ‘exercising final authority on all matters vitally affecting the Corporation.’ [A]lthough it is not practical for the membership to be involved in all decisions affecting the Corporation, the bylaws are clear that on all matters vitally affecting the Corporation, the membership makes the final decisions.”

Membership control requires GHI officeholders to perform a delicate, non-stop balancing act to ensure that decisions are made with an expansive search for and sincere consideration of facts and dissenting perspectives.

Membership control means that policies are made and applied in full view, open meetings are the norm and closed-door meetings are held to protect privacy, not to avoid controversy or inconvenient debate.

The weight of our “member voice” in every major decision about our cooperative community is what separates GHI from the typical corporation.

Please join your family, friends and neighbors next week and be part of GHI’s decision-making process because our elections, and everything that follows, directly affect our wallets and quality of life.

Montrese Hamilton

Greenbelt Museum

Thank you for your coverage of the Greenbelt Museum’s recent

challenges and upcoming projects. As president of the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum, the nonprofit group that supports staffing, fundraising and programming at the Greenbelt Museum, I am pleased to be a part of the organization at this exciting time.

I wanted to take this opportunity to publicly thank the museum’s director, Megan Searing Young, as well as our assistant director, Ennis Barbary Smith, for their hard work over the past few months. As noted in the article in last week’s paper, in October the Museum suffered a flood. Ennis was the first staff member on the scene, and it was thanks to her quick response alerting us to the problem, as well as the hard work of Megan, Ennis, our volunteers, GHI and city staff, that the house and museum collection were not significantly damaged, and we were able to quickly recover. We took this “opportunity” to introduce more historically accurate paint colors into the house, reinterpret some of the spaces (including the closets!) and upgrade some of our infrastructure. We are looking forward to debuting these changes on June 4 during Greenbelt Day Weekend, and we hope everyone will stop by to see the updates.

We are also pleased to share that our volunteer and education coordinator, Sheila Maffay-Tuthill, will be returning this spring. Sheila is going to be working on an exciting new project we will be announcing soon.

Finally, we are moving forward with the planning stage for the redevelopment of 10-A Crescent Road, the house next door, which will be transformed into the Greenbelt Education and Visitor Center. The Center will be a space for us to welcome visitors, host special exhibits and hands-on education activities; it will include an archival research room and office space as well.

There are many exciting things in store for the Greenbelt Museum, and we are eager to share them with the community. We hope to see you on June 4!

Jennifer Ruffner, President  
Friends of the Greenbelt Museum

Confidence in Kemp

On June 16, 2015, Beltway Plaza Mall honored an iconic figure in the Greenbelt community on its Wall of Fame, with a reception and installation of his photograph and biography on the Wall. On that occasion, our Local Hero was Greenbelt Chief of Police Jim Craze, now retired. We observed at that time, among other achievements, that Chief Craze and the Greenbelt Police Department gained local, state and national recognition, as well as numerous awards, including difficult to obtain CALEA Law

Enforcement Accreditation.

We further observed that Greenbelt officers exhibited excellent training, intelligence and community-oriented leadership skills. Greenbelt cares can also be stated as Greenbelt Police care because of the exemplary leadership of Jim and the members of the Department. Not to take anything away from Jim and his contribution to the excellence of today’s Greenbelt Police department, he didn’t and couldn’t have achieved that excellence alone. In fact, on a personal note, in 28 years in Greenbelt, I have a 100 percent approval of each and every Greenbelt police officer I have encountered of any rank in whatever capacity.

I stated that Chief Craze imbued in his officers from the top down the service role that the Greenbelt Police play in our community. Again, Jim did not instill that principle in his officers, or cause it to be applied by them, alone. This brings me to Acting Chief Thomas “Tom” Kemp, or “TK” as he is affectionately known to me by the officers in patrol and criminal investigations.

Briefly stated, over the decades that I have known TK in his official capacity, I have found him to be both instrumental and essential in the success of Jim and the department.

Thus, I am pleased to state unequivocally that Acting Chief Tom Kemp has the complete and utter confidence and support of both the management and Security Department of Beltway Plaza; because, as stated by City Manager Nicole Ard, he has “demonstrated professionalism, pride, passion and dedication” to the department, its officers and the Greenbelt community.

Kap Kapastin,  
General Counsel

Disappointed

As residents of the City of Greenbelt and long-term public safety advocates, we are exceptionally disappointed in the vote of “no confidence” taken by Greenbelt Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge # 32 on April 19, 2017, concerning Acting Chief Thomas Kemp. As members of multiple city public safety committees and organizations, we have had the opportunity to work closely with Acting Chief Kemp for many years. We have only known Kemp to be an exemplary police officer and staunch advocate for the Greenbelt Police Department, all of its officers and

the City of Greenbelt.

Kemp has shown only extreme concern for the current challenges facing the Greenbelt Police Department since assuming the reins from retiring Chief James Craze in November 2016. During many discussions with Acting Chief Kemp, it has been clearly evident that he is working tirelessly to deal with the significant staff shortages using every means available. Unfortunately, the current national social climate has made policing a less attractive and noticeably more dangerous career choice. The fact coupled with large contingent of retirement age officers within the department has created the perfect storm in regards to staffing challenges.

The Greenbelt FOP should be doing everything in its power to assist Acting Chief Kemp in restoring the department to full power rather than criticizing Kemp and blaming him for the current problems. We are particularly disappointed that the Greenbelt FOP chose to pursue a vote at its meeting on April 19 instead of sitting down with Kemp to discuss the issues and potential solutions. The problem did not begin on Acting Chief Kemp’s watch – it began several years earlier under Chief Craze. While we do not wish to place blame specifically on Craze, we feel that blaming Kemp for a problem that began years ago under the leadership of a different police chief is both unfair and irresponsible. The FOP should be constructive not destructive in their actions.

Complaining about a problem is easy. Stepping up to the plate and working to fix it is not easy. Our hope is that the majority of the Greenbelt FOP members, who are not involved in the vote of “no confidence”, will now step up to give Acting Chief Kemp the support, assistance and encouragement he deserves. The City of Greenbelt is exceptionally fortunate to have an exemplary person leading the Greenbelt Police Department. We fervently

support Major Thomas Kemp as our Acting Police Chief and personally hope our City Manager and Council have the foresight to make him our permanent Police Chief in the near future.

Dr. Laura Kressler  
Kris White, Ellen Weiss  
Stan Zirkon, Matthew Inzeo

Patuxent Refuge Scout Workshops

Workshops for scouts are being offered this year at the National Wildlife Visitor Center and will cover most requirements for the badges indicated. One of these workshops, Elective Adventure: Into the Woods, will be held on Saturday, May 6 from 1 to 4 p.m. This workshop will meet at least four of the seven necessary requirements to complete this adventure. Scouts will learn about the importance of trees and plants in our natural world. Dress for the weather; long pants and insect repellent are recommended.

Space is limited and registration is required by calling 301-497-5887. The workshop is free but donations are appreciated.



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(240) 542-8625

Greenbelt Advocates for Environmental and Social Justice

Saturday May 13, 2017, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM  
Roosevelt Center

We will be at the Green Man Festival. Please visit our table.

- Learn about the ASPCA’s definition of a No-Kill Animal Shelter
- See the public information requests we submitted to view City documents
- Learn about the Open Meetings Act and our submissions to the Compliance Board
- Read the letter Council wrote expressing opposition to the Lakeside North Development
- Learn why we now need to start a campaign to Protect the Forest Preserve

Contact Brian or Donna Almquist for information at:

GreenbeltAdvocates.ESJ@gmail.com

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# Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, [www.greenbeltmd.gov/police](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police)  
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

**Robbery**  
April 20, 12:54 a.m., Vicinity of Spellman Overpass. A 22-year-old resident was arrested and charged with attempted robbery, first degree assault and conspiracy after he and another man allegedly attempted to rob a person at gunpoint. The 22-year-old man was located in the area a short time later and detained, positively identified and arrested. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner and for service of an open arrest warrant.

April 22, 2:15 a.m., 7800 block Hanover Parkway. As many as six men approached a pizza delivery person as he attempted to deliver an order to a residence. They assaulted him, took the food and fled on foot.

**Assault**  
April 23, 3 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court. Warrants were obtained charging a 47-year-old resident with three counts of first degree assault, three counts of second degree assault, use of a firearm during a violent felony and reckless endangerment after he approached some people he knew who were walking from the parking lot to a common area, produced a handgun and fired a single shot at them. He then fled. No one was injured.

**PCP**  
April 24, 7:40 p.m., Greenbelt Road near Kenilworth Avenue. A 21-year-old nonresident was arrested and charged with possession of phencyclidine with intent to distribute and possession of phencyclidine when officers responded to a report of someone possibly selling drugs. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

**DWI/DUI**  
April 22, 3:28 a.m., Greenbelt Road near Edmonston Road. A 31-year-old resident was arrested and charged with multiple alcohol- and other traffic-related violations after being stopped for a traffic violation. She was released on citations pending trial.

**Fraud**  
April 21, 1:15 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court. A woman advertised a camera for sale on the internet and she and the buyer agreed to meet in person to complete the transaction. He paid for the merchandise with what turned out to be counterfeit money. He is described as black, 22 to 25 years old, 5'9" tall, 125 pounds, with a medium complexion, brown eyes and a short fade haircut with long hair on top.

**Theft**  
April 20, 9:17 a.m., 6900 block Hanover Parkway. A 51-year-old man and a 52-year-old woman, both Greenbelters, were arrested and charged with grocery cart removal after they were observed in possession of a grocery cart belonging to Safe-

way. The man was released on citation pending trial. The woman was released to U.S. marshals for service of an arrest warrant.

**Burglary**  
April 19, 7:17 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace. The person who reported the theft of a vehicle on April 16 said he now believes the car keys had been taken during a burglary of his residence the same day, when entry was possibly made by way of a broken sliding glass door.

April 20, 4:26 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive. Three Greenbelt youths, 11, 10 and 9 years old, were arrested for burglary and malicious destruction after they were observed inside a vacant apartment breaking out several windows. They were released to parents pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

April 20, 5:10 a.m., 9100 block Edmonston Road. A woman asleep in her home woke up to see a man inside. She picked up her cellphone, at which time the man fled. Entry into her home appeared to have been gained by forcing open the front door, which was damaged in the process. The man is known to the woman as the ex-boyfriend of her former roommate. The investigation is continuing.

**Vehicle Crime**  
Two vehicles were stolen. A silver 2006 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup truck with Md. tags 308V833 was taken from the 9100 block Edmonston Road and a tan 2004 GMC Yukon SUV with Md. temporary tag 21502964 was stolen from the 6500 block Lake Park Drive.

A 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe SUV stolen on April 21 from the 6100 block Breezewood Court was recovered the next day after it had been driven past an officer on Edmonston Road near Breezewood Drive and ran a stop sign. The vehicle was followed to the area of Greenbelt Road and Lakecrest Drive, where a traffic stop was attempted, at which time the driver again fled in the vehicle. It was later located in the area of Edmonston Road near Greenbelt Road, where it apparently had been involved in a single vehicle accident. The driver, described by a witness as a black man with shoulder-length dreadlocks, wearing a white T-shirt and red hat, fled the area on foot and was not apprehended.

Two stolen vehicles were recovered. A 1985 Toyota Camry reported stolen by Prince George's County police was located in the 5700 block Greenbelt Metro Drive. A 2012 Chevrolet Traverse SUV reported stolen by police from the Charles County Sheriff's Office was recovered in the 9100 block Springhill Lane.

Eleven reports of thefts from vehicles were received, all but three involving the breaking out of windows. One of the three occurred in the 7500 block Green-

belt Road, where a front tag was taken, and two were reported in the 6300 block Golden Triangle Drive, where an in-dash stereo system was taken from one vehicle and four tires and rims from the other.

Wallets were taken in three thefts, one each in the 6000 block Greenbelt Road and 7400 and 7500 blocks Greenbelt Road, where in the latter case a witness saw two men break into the vehicle and then flee in a pickup truck.

Two handbags were taken from one vehicle in the 6000 block Greenbelt Road and in the 7500 block Greenbelt Road a handbag and cellphone were taken from a vehicle.

In the 7400 block Greenbelt Road a car was rummaged through but nothing appeared to have been taken.

An air pressure kit and Social Security card were taken from the 9100 block Edmonston Road and a laptop computer from the 5500 block Cherrywood Lane.

**Sobriety Checkpoint Friday, May 5**  
On Friday, May 5, the Greenbelt Police Department will conduct a sobriety checkpoint in Greenbelt in the area of Greenbelt Road and Lakecrest Drive from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. the following morning.

The objective of this checkpoint is to both deter motorists from driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol and to arrest those who ignore the dangers of getting behind the wheel while impaired. This checkpoint is funded by the Maryland Department of Transportation.

For further information, contact Officer Scott Yankowy at 240-542-2114 or [syankowy@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:syankowy@greenbeltmd.gov).

## Puppies at Animal Shelter

The Greenbelt Animal Shelter has had an infusion of small furry occupants from the Oxford Humane Society in Mississippi. A Greenbelt volunteer went down to Mississippi and was helping in their shelter when she realized they were overrun with puppies but Greenbelt did not have many. She then contacted the Greenbelt shelter and they all worked out a deal to bring them up here.



PHOTO BY HOWARD STANBACK

Greenbelt Animal Shelter has puppies!

## Animal Shelter Hosts Human Guests May 6

The City of Greenbelt Animal Shelter is hosting an open house on Saturday, May 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The shelter is located at 550-A Crescent Road behind the Police Station; entrance to the shelter is on Ridge Road.

Attendees will be able to meet shelter staff and volunteers as well as animals up for adoption.

The shelter's cat rooms and back yard were recently renovated, so guests will be able to check out these spaces. Adoption fees will be waived for cats.

A group of dogs and puppies, including two nursing mother dogs with litters, arrived this week from Mississippi.

The shelter will offer free microchipping for pets belonging to Greenbelt residents. If bringing your dog and cat to be microchipped, please ensure that your animal is on a leash or in a carrier and bring proof of residency such as an ID, driver's license or utility bill.

Human guests will be treated to light refreshments and pizza. For more information, call 301-474-6124.

## Spring Choral Concert Free at UMD

The Clarice will be the site of a Spring Choral Showcase concert by the University Choral, UMD Women's Chorus and UMD Men's Chorus on Sunday, May 7 at 2:30 p.m. in the Dekelboum Concert Hall. The program will highlight choral favorites that will have listeners humming into the night.

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The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.

Call 1-866-411-TIPS.

People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.



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**DELIVERY DRIVER** for New York Deli in College Park for daytime shifts. Please call 301-412-2619.

**MERCHANDISE**

**CEMETERY PLOTS** – Two, Fort Lincoln Cemetery, Brentwood, \$2995. Robert, 301-953-3921.

**REAL ESTATE – RENTAL**

**GARAGE NEEDED** to rent for storage of a car, June 1-October 31. Location – Greenbelt or close – 301-474-5068 or 301-910-8687.

**RENTAL/GREENBELT CONDOMINIUM** – Rent: \$800's per month. All utilities and condo fee paid by landlord. Walk to NASA, Section 8 most welcomed, CAC, 2 bedrooms, large kitchen & living room, carpet, full bath with shower and bath tub. Walk-in & other closets. Consider higher offers. Refrigerator, furnace, full-size washer and full-size dryer, garbage disposal, etc. Parking permits extra parking, Tel: 301-552-3354 (must leave a detailed message), aashish\_intouch@yahoo.com.

**PRIVATE SUNNY ROOM** for rent. Near NASA, USDA, UMD. Large backyard, porch, bus stop in front, walk to lake, shopping. \$550+ ½ utils. N/S, wifi, W/D. Text 301-452-6665.

**PRIVATE ROOM AVAILABLE** in exchange for a person with nurse's aide experience and light housekeeping help. Hours and additional compensation negotiable. Call Sheila Lemus, 301-741-8275, for more details.

**REAL ESTATE – SALE**

**2 BEDROOM GHI** mid-row frame. Sunny kitchen addition. Updated bath. Many upgrades, generous storage. Backs to woods. FSBO. \$135K. 301-441-3451, LaureIHill\_15J@yahoo.com, or Zillow.com.

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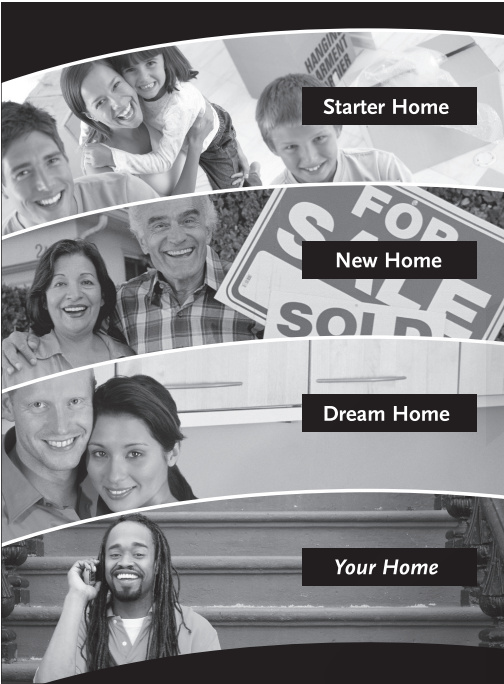
**FLEA MARKET** – May 6, 2017, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Glenn Dale Fire House, 11900 Glenn Dale Blvd., Glenn Dale, Md. 20769. For information, auxgdfa18@aol.com or 301-852-8540.



**ANNUAL UMW INDOOR YARD** and rummage sale – Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville 20705. Housewares, ladies' accessories, toys, books, crafts, pictures and more. Join us for lunch and find something great at our bake sale! Prices are nominal. Table rentals may be available. Church office, 301-937-7114

**COURT YARD SALE** – Saturday, May 6, 9 a.m.- 12 noon. 56 Crescent Road. Camping gear, collectibles, jigsaw puzzles, books, clothes, CD's, Kenwood stereo amp, electric lawnmower, yard tools, bicycle, much more!! Rain date Sunday, May 7.

**GREENBELT NURSERY SCHOOL** – Yard sale on the Community Center lawn, Saturday, May 6, from 8 a.m.- 1 p.m.



**RATES**

**CLASSIFIED:** \$3.00 minimum for ten words. 15¢ for each additional word. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 8 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 7 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

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**9B SOUTHWAY** - 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath w/ addition -\$139,900

**3B CRESCENT**- 3 Bedroom with screened porch and gorgeous private wooded lot-\$191,900

**2L EASTWAY** – 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath block –Sunny and bright with updated kitchen -\$162,900

**4G PLATEAU**- Charming one bedroom. Completely renovated!! -\$84,000

**7E LAUREL HILL**- Bright and Sunny 1 Bedroom!-\$79,000

**11F SOUTHWAY**- 2 Bedroom, with skylights! Bright and sunny! Great Parking- \$128,900

**9E RIDGE**- 2 Bedroom, brick, w/ forced air/heat. First floor half bath, mud room. NON-SMOKING row!! -\$139,900

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PHOTO BY JUDY MCCORD

Spring at 14 Court Ridge Road



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**Large Corner Lot** - 2 Bedroom GHI home - French doors, GHI! New siding, windows and doors. Refinished hardwood flooring throughout. Ready!

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## Clean Up Means Green Up At Schrom Hills Park

by Connor Roessler



Volunteers from NIAC help at Clean Up Green Up event.

- Photos by Connor Roessler

On Saturday, April 29, there was a Clean Up Green Up event at Schrom Hills Park. A group of 31 volunteers participated in this combination service and learning opportunity. First, there was a discussion on the negative impact that litter has on wildlife, property values and water quality and learning how to effectively sort recyclable materials like plastic water bottles and metal cans from landfill trash like Styrofoam and candy wrappers. One set of volunteers then helped to clean up the park as they walked to the shoreline of Still Creek to pick up litter. Over 100 pounds of litter and 120 pounds of recyclables were removed. Another set helped green up the park by planting projects in the Three Sisters Demonstration Gardens, mulching garden beds and setting up pyramid beds for spring plantings.

Volunteers tracked their successful clean-up using PGC Litter TRAK, an app that reports metrics of litter cleanups to the County Department of the Environment. Additionally, the Department of Public Works tracked areas of high litter through a GIS Survey123 app, called Greenbelt Litter Hotspots. The app allows for information about high litter areas to be captured and collected on a map for the City. Community members with smartphones are invited to

contribute to the tracking of these hotspots and receive service hours by doing so.

The event was sponsored by the Department of Public Works in partnership with Chesapeake Education, Arts, and Research Society (CHEARS) and Prince George’s County Department of the Environment, and there was special participation from the National Iranian American Council (NIAC) and the CHEARS Earth Squad.

For more information about this project and find out how to get involved, contact Connor Roessler at [croessler@greenbelt-md.gov](mailto:croessler@greenbelt-md.gov) or 240-542-2150.

*Connor Roessler is a Chesapeake Conservation Corps member working for Public Works.*



Leah and Toni Prince clean up litter from Schrom Hills Park.

## Community Gathers for Tai Chi

by Jill Connor



PHOTO BY JILL CONNOR

Taj Johnson of Sky Valley leads a session of Tai Chi on World Tai Chi Day on Saturday April 29 at the Community Center.

Taj Johnson has been leading a session in Greenbelt for Tai Ji World Tai Chi and Qigong Day for more than 10 years. The celebration this last Saturday in April was no different. The goal of the day is to “help heal planet and heal people around planet”

said Johnson. People all over the world gathered at 10 a.m. Eastern time and practiced Tai Chi. There was a quiet calm around the large gymnasium in the Community Center. Even people manning the desk said the people walking by always whisper if they ask ques-

tions while the large group of people in the gym move slowly extending their arms and carefully placing their feet in sync. Imagining people all over the world celebrating together by doing this makes Johnson imagine a “wave of healing energy around world.”

### Farmers Market Opens May 14

The Farmers Market will open Sunday, May 14 for its tenth season. There will be a different layout to accommodate stricter offsets between vendors using cooking equipment, as well as new fire department regulations.

Most 2016 vendors are back this year, along with several new vendors.

The market will be open every Sunday between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.



### ERHS PTSA Hosts Cell Tower Q&A

The Eleanor Roosevelt High School PTSA will host a question and answer session about the proposed cell tower with school board member Lupi Grady and other school system administrators. This will take place at the PTSA regular meeting on Tuesday, May 16. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. with PTSA business including the election of new officers and approval of the budget for next year. At 7:30 p.m. the cell tower portion of the meeting will begin.



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